



December 1, 2004

**Statement of U.S. Attorney Robert Clark Corrente concerning the
“Corrente Tape” Special Proceedings**

Over the course of the past few years, the court-appointed Special Prosecutor has investigated the identity of the source who leaked the so-called Corrente videotape to Jim Taricani, in violation of an order of the United States District Court. During that time, a number of commentators, including some media outlets, have speculated or suggested that the tape was leaked by a federal employee, presumably either an FBI agent or a representative of the U.S. Attorney’s office.

With the filing today of the Special Prosecutor’s sentencing memorandum, the identity of the source has been revealed. This revelation lifts the cloud of suspicion which had been permitted to linger, unfairly, over the FBI and this office. We agree that it was necessary and appropriate for the court to appoint a Special Prosecutor to investigate this matter. But it is just as important for the people of Rhode Island to be reassured that neither the FBI nor the U.S. Attorney’s office leaked the Corrente videotape in an effort to gain an unfair advantage in the Plunder Dome trial. As I have stressed before, we take our ethical obligations seriously, and the public needs to know that they can bank on that.

We hope that today’s developments will help to bring this matter to an appropriate conclusion.